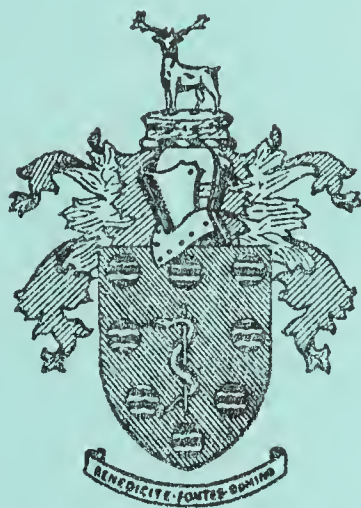


BOROUGH OF BUXTON



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Senior Sanitary Inspector

For the Year ended 1949.

Public Health Officers of the Authority

Medical Officer of Health, Superintendent of Child Welfare Centre :

GEORGE COCHRANE, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

A. H. CORNHILL, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H. & H.

(Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods).

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

H. MADDOCK, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Senior Clerk and Typist :

Miss V. M. HAMBLETON.

Junior Clerk :

Miss J. V. YATES.

Pupil Sanitary Inspector :

D. W. M. MORTEN.

Meat Inspector :

R. S. HOWE, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M. (Vict).

(Resigned 4th July, 1949).

CHARLES E. HALL, M.R.C.V.S.

(Commenced 5th July, 1949).

BOROUGH OF BUXTON.

CONTENTS:


I. Medical Officer's Report for 1949.

- A. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.
- B. General Provision of Health Services for the Area.
- C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.
- D. Housing.
- E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.
- F. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases.

Appendix A.—Meat Inspector's Report.

Appendix B—Meteorological Report.

II. Report of Senior Sanitary Inspector for 1949.



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BOROUGH OF BUXTON

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

For the Year 1949

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
PEAK BUILDINGS,
BUXTON.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Buxton.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report on the health of the Borough of Buxton for the year, 1949.

The contents of the report have been compiled in a manner to comply with the suggestions made by the Ministry of Health, and the vital statistics are based on the information supplied by the Registrar General.

The Registrar General's estimate of the civilian population for 1949 is 18,860 and the total population is given as 19,100.

The Birth Rate for 1949 was 16.7, against 17.5 for 1948. The Death Rate for 1949 was 13.04, against 11.2 for 1948. The Infant Death Rate increased to 50.6 compared with 48.4 for 1948.

Infectious Disease: The two infectious diseases of note were Measles (133 cases) and Whooping Cough (63 cases) and for the previous year the numbers notified were 37 and 20 respectively. There were two cases of Diphtheria and it is of interest to note that these occurred, one in the 35—45 age group and the other over 60. There were no cases of Diphtheria amongst children.

The report for 1949 presents differences from any previous report in that no reference is made to those services which were transferred to the County Council under the National Health Service Act. It is perhaps premature to pass judgment on the effects of the transfer, but there have been noteworthy decreases in the numbers attending the clinics. This, of course, is easily explained by the fact that much greater reference is now made to the private Medical Practitioner and one can readily appreciate the reluctance of a parent to bring a child to the clinic when that visit may only lead to the reference and a visit to the private Practitioner. In the past the parent was only too willing and anxious to take advantage of the clinic services and readily paid for such medicines as might be thought needful. The advent of the National Health Service Act, and the conversion of an uninsured to a National insured patient with the provision of free medicines, etc., have resulted in the greatly increased work thrown upon the private doctor and the consequent lessening of the clinic services.

Cases of infectious diseases are now treated by the Regional Hospital Board and the patients are transferred either to the High Peak Hospital at Chinley, or to the hospital at Stockport.

In the past any case of infectious disease was promptly notified by the Medical Practitioner to the Medical Officer of Health and arrangements were made for the case to be removed to hospital. It now happens on occasion that the case is sent direct by the Medical Practitioner to the Isolation Hospital and this may lead either to delay in receipt of a notification from the receiving hospital or failure to receive any notification at all. Where the co-operation and liaison formerly existed it still prevails.

The year 1949 showed distinct increase in deaths from cancer, with a total of 39 against 33 for the previous year.

I need make little reference to the vexed question of inadequate housing and it would appear that many years must elapse before we can feel in any way free from the grave peril which exists with the continued shortage of accommodation. The fact that a son or daughter on marriage has to live at home with parents constitutes a social evil of no mean order, and until every young married couple can have the necessary right of a home for themselves, there will inevitably be a continuance of much of the trouble with which we are beset to-day.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE COCHRANE.

Section A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The elevation of the District is from 950 to 1,200 feet above sea-level.

Area of the Borough : 6,337 acres.

Civilian Population : 18,860.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

		M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate	302	162	140
Illegitimate	14	10	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	316	172	144
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population	16.7		
		M.	F.
Stillbirths—Legitimate	7	3	4
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	7	3	4
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	21.6		
Deaths.....	Total 246	M. 117	F. 129
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population	13.04		
Deaths from puerperal causes :—		Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	
	Deaths		
Puerperal sepsis	0	0.00	
Other puerperal causes	0	0.00	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total	0	0.00	
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—			
All infants per 1,000 live births			50.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			49.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			71.4
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)			39
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			0
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years)			2

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

3 deaths from Influenza occurred.

TUBERCULOSIS OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.

0 deaths occurred, giving a death-rate of 0.00 per 1,000.

CANCER.

39 deaths occurred, giving a death-rate of 2.06 per 1,000.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

29 deaths occurred, giving a death-rate of 1.5 per 1,000.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BOROUGH OF BUXTON DURING YEAR 1949.

Causes of Death.						Males.	Females
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	117	129
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...			—	—
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	1	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...				—	—
7.	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...			—	—
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	—
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	2
10.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	1
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...				—	—
12.	Acute Infantile Encephalitis	...	...			—	—
13.	Cancer of Buc: cav: and Œsoph; (M)						
	Uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	1	2
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...			4	2
15.	Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	...	—	5
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	13	12
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	—
18.	Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	...	...			9	19
19.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	41	51
20.	Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	...				—	4
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	11	2
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	5	7
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	3	1
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...			2	—
25.	Diarrhoea, under 2 years	...	...	...	...	—	2
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	1
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	—	4
29.	Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis...	...				—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	5	—
32.	Congenital Debility, Birth Injury, Infant Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	3
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	3	1
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	2	—
35.	Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	...	3	—
36.	All Other Causes	...	...	...	...	8	10
Deaths of Infants under 1 year							
						{ Total ...	10 6
						{ Legitimate ...	10 5
						{ Illegitimate	— 1
Live Births							
						{ Total ...	172 144
						{ Legitimate ...	162 140
						{ Illegitimate	10 4
Stillbirths							
						{ Total ...	3 4
						{ Legitimate ...	3 4
						{ Illegitimate	— —

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1949. ENGLAND AND WALES, LONDON, 126 COUNTY BOROUGHES AND GREAT TOWNS, AND 148 SMALLER TOWNS.

RATE per 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION		RATES PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION.																	RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS	RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS (i.e. Live & Still)							
Live Births	Still-Births	DEATHS.								NOTIFICATIONS I.D.									DEATHS	NOTIFICATIONS							
		All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Smallpox	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	Pneumonia	Typhoid Fever	Paratyphoid Fever	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Smallpox	Measles	Pneumonia	Acute Poliomyelitis	Acute Polioencephalitis	Food Poisoning	Diarrhea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths (under 1 year)	Puerperal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia
England and Wales	*16.7	*0.39	*11.7	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.45	0.15	0.00	0.51	0.01	0.02	1.63	2.39	0.04	0.19	0.00	8.95	0.80	0.13	0.01	0.14	3.0	32	6.31		
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ..	18.7	0.47	12.5	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.52	0.15	0.00	0.56	0.02	0.03	1.72	2.44	0.05	0.20	0.00	8.91	0.91	0.13	0.01	0.16	3.8	37	8.14		
148 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931) ..	18.0	0.40	11.6	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.42	0.14	—	0.49	0.01	0.02	1.83	2.39	0.04	0.19	0.00	9.18	0.65	0.12	0.02	0.14	2.4	30	5.30		
London	18.5	0.37	12.2	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.52	0.11	—	0.59	0.01	0.02	1.46	1.70	0.07	0.17	0.00	8.54	0.55	0.18	0.01	0.19	1.7	29	6.82		
BUXTON	16.7	0.37	13.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	—	0.63	0.00	0.05	1.16	3.34	0.10	0.10	—	7.05	0.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.3	50	0.00		

* Rates per 1,000 Total Population.
The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows :

Abortion with sepsis
0.11

Abortion without sepsis
0.05

Puerperal Infections
0.11

Other
0.71

The maternal mortality rates for **BUXTON** are as follows :

Abortion with sepsis
0.00

Abortion without sepsis
0.00

Puerperal Infections
0.00

Other
0.00

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) **LABORATORY FACILITIES :** Pathological and Bacteriological Investigations are carried out at the County Public Health Laboratory, Derby, and at the Devonshire Royal Hospital, Buxton.

(b) **AMBULANCE FACILITIES :** This service, since the introduction of the National Health Service Act, 1948, is run by the County Council.

(c) **NURSING IN THE HOME :** This service is administered by the County Council.

(d) **CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES :—**

Name and Situation.	Clinic held.	By whom provided.
Maternity & Child Welfare, Bridge Street.	Mon., 2—4. Wed., 2—4. 1st and 3rd Tues. in each month.	Derbys. County Council
Ante-Natal Clinic, Bridge St.	1-30—3-30.	„ „
School Clinic, Bridge Street.	Tues., 10—11.	„ „
Eye Clinic.	1st, 3rd & 4th Monday in each month.	„ „
Orthopædic Clinic, Bridge St.	4th Thursday in each month.	„ „
Tuberculosis Dispensary, Throstle Grove House, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.	Mon., 2—4.	Regional Hosp. Board.
Venereal Disease Clinic, Stockport.		„ „

(e) **HOSPITALS :** Administered by the Regional Hospital Board.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY : The Borough is almost entirely covered by a piped supply, which in a year of normal average rainfall, meets the demand. There does arise, however, with a period of prolonged drought the question of larger storage accommodation. The water is mainly upland surface water. The supplies are tested chemically and bacteriologically at least once a month, and daily examinations are conducted for the pH. A Chlorinating Plant is installed at each reservoir. 16 farms and 21 dwelling-houses situated in the rural outskirts of the Borough are not supplied from the mains. 12 houses in the rural portion of the Borough are supplied by two standpipes.

SWIMMING BATHS : There are two swimming pools in the Borough, one owned by the Corporation and one privately owned. Neither pool is supplied with filtration or chlorinating plant.

Section D.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December, 1949.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	68
(b) As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme	66
(c) Private Enterprise	2
(d) Existing Houses converted into Flats (13)	25
(e) New Flats	10

Section E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(A) MILK SUPPLY.

There are 31 cow-keepers on the register.

There are 58 Cowsheds at the 31 Dairy Farms in the Borough, the cubic space per cow varying from 200 cubic feet to 800 cubic feet. All the sheds are occupied by cows which are habitually turned out to grass during a part of the day throughout the year.

No formal action was taken under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

Particulars of inspections :—

	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections
Cowsheds	31	94
Dairies	25	180
Milkshops	16	11

Milk is also supplied from 20 sources outside the Borough, and is generally good.

300 specimens of milk were obtained and subjected to bacteriological examinations. 153 of the specimens were of "Designated" milks, and the remaining 147 were "non-designated."

1 supply was found to include milk from animals affected with tuberculosis.

A summary of the results of examination is included in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Particulars of licenses granted for the sale of milk under the Sale of Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936-41, are set out below :—

Dealers in Tuberculin Tested Milk	3
Dealers in “Accredited ” Milk	0
Dealers in “ Pasteurised ” Milk	3
Refusals or revocation of licences	0

(B) MEAT.

- (1) Meat Inspection.—See Meat Inspector’s Report (Appendix A).
- (2) Administration of Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, as regards stalls, shops, stores and vehicles. Inspected by the Sanitary Inspector.
- (3) Slaughterhouses.
 - Privately owned slaughterhouses. None in use, owing to wartime legislation.
 - Meat for the Borough is distributed from a Government controlled slaughterhouse in an adjoining authority.

Section F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.—GENERAL.

There was no marked epidemic of infectious disease during the year.

Immunisation against Diphtheria is the responsibility of the County Council and is carried out in the Clinic at Bridge Street. Medical Practitioners were invited by the County to take part in immunisation.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES FOR YEAR 1949.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified (all ages)	Adm't'd to Hospital	Total Deaths	Analysis of Total Notified Cases in age groups.										Unknown		
				0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45		45-60	60 and over
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	22	12	—	2	1	7	6	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	6	—	6	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C.S. Fever	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	133	—	1	12	20	70	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	63	—	—	10	11	18	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Erysipelas	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Observation Cases:—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER TUBERCULOSIS.

There is no special incidence of this disease in the district.

Number of cases notified during the year	12
Pulmonary	10
Non-pulmonary	2

There were no deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system, and none from non-pulmonary form occurred.

In case of death or removal the house is disinfected.

No action taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

The methods of control are :—

- (a) Sanatorium treatment administered by the Regional Hospital Board.
- (b) The Tuberculosis Dispensary at Throstle Grove House, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1949.

Age Periods				New Cases				Deaths			
				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
25	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
45	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals				7	3	1	1	...	...	...	...

APPENDIX A.

REPORT OF THE MEAT INSPECTOR.

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Buxton.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Mr. R. S. Howe resigned from the position of Meat Inspector in July, after many years service.

He wishes to thank the officers of the Public Health Department for their help during these years.

VISITS TO SLAUGHTERHOUSE :—

1949, January 1st—July 31st	81
-----------------------------------	----

NUMBER OF CARCASSES INSPECTED :—

Cattle	434
Calves	473
Sheep	1,079
Pigs	25

DISEASED OR UNSOUND MEAT SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED :—

(1) TUBERCULOSIS :	lbs.
(a) Generalised. Whole carcasses destroyed :	
Oxen	5,830
Pigs	0
(b) Localised. Portions of carcasses and Organs :	
Oxen	2,083
Pigs	84
(2) FLUKE LIVERS (Distomatosis) :	
Oxen	1,573
Sheep	106
(3) Miscellaneous, Lesions, Cysts, Abscesses, Emaciation, Bruised Flesh, &c.	2,753
Total	12,429

BOTHOMES HALL,

WHALEY BRIDGE,

Nr. STOCKPORT.

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Buxton.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present the report on Meat Inspection for the Borough of Buxton from the 1st August to the 31st December, 1949.

The Ministry of Food continues to control the marketing and slaughtering of all livestock and allocates them to specified slaughter-houses which serve large areas.

All meat consumed in Buxton comes from the New Mills depot.

This report deals only with home-killed meat—the frozen meat being inspected at the ports.

All home-killed meat, after examination, is stamped and can be identified as having been inspected.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES E. HALL, M.R.C.V.S.,

Meat Inspector.

Details of slaughterhouse and meat inspections are set forth in the following tables :—

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	240	504	596	2,465	7
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS—					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	7	10	11	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	46	150	4	193	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	20.4	30.97	2.8	8.2	42.8
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY—					
Whole carcasses condemned	8	32	—	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	38	196	—	0	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	19.1	45.2	—	0	28.5

Visits made
VISITS TO SLAUGHTERHOUSES 81

DISEASED OR UNSOUND MEAT SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED :—

(1) TUBERCULOSIS :	lbs.	lbs.
(a) Generalised. Whole carcasses destroyed :		
Oxen	20,320	
Pigs	0	
	————	20,320
(b) Localised.—Portions of carcasses and Organs :		
Oxen	12,486	
Pigs	64	
	————	12,550
(2) FLUKY LIVERS (Distomatosis) :		
Oxen	3,510	
Sheep	540	
	——	4,050
(3) Miscellaneous Lesions, Cysts, Abscesses, Bruised Flesh, &c.		841
		————
Grand Total		37,761
		————

APPENDIX B.

BOROUGH OF BUXTON.

Meteorological Office,
Buxton.

To The Mayor, Corporation and Citizens of Buxton.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the Meteorological Station for 1949.

The year was memorable for its hot, dry summer. With two exceptions, March and May, every month had an above-the-average temperature. July was the warmest month, with an average temperature of 58.9, and the maximum for the year, 82 deg. was reached on July 12th. The coldest month was March, average 37.1%; while the coldest individual day was February 5th, when the mercury dropped to 20 deg.F

As usual, the prevailing wind was S.W.

The pressure reached both extremes in January. On January 1st, it fell to 28.33 ins. and on January 30th, it soared to 30.87 ins.

The rainfall, 1087.0 mm. was only 87.8% of the annual average. December was the wettest month, with a total of 181.1 mm. recorded. The wettest day was December 2nd, with a fall of 29.0 mm. September was the driest month, with rain falling on nine days only, and a total for the month of 37.7 mm., 46% of the average.

We recorded more bright sunshine (1,307.4 hours) than in any year since 1933. August was the best month, with 169.3 hours, and only one sunless day. The brightest day was June 26th, when we basked in 14.5 hours of brilliance. The daily average for the whole year was 3.58 hours.

In March the grass minimum thermometer was wilfully broken and it was impossible to replace it until November, so that for eight out of the twelve months no readings were taken of the minimum temperature out of the screen, and of course the cost of replacement has to come out of the rates, in other words, out of the pockets of every citizen.

Further details of readings will be supplied at any time.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. W. PILKINGTON,

Borough Meteorologist.

BOROUGH OF BUXTON

Annual Report

OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

For the Year 1949.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

PEAK BUILDINGS,

BUXTON.

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Buxton.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1949. For reasons of economy the Report has again been compiled as briefly as possible.

Probably the most outstanding and welcome feature of the year was the eviction of squatters from the Empire Hotel. Otherwise the work of the department has proceeded smoothly and unostentatiously. Our difficulties, which include those of securing essential housing repairs, the closure or demolition of unfit dwellings, the abatement of overcrowding, labour and economic difficulties in connection with refuse and salvage collection and disposal, are such as are common to most local authorities and are too well-known to require further comment. At the same time we are pleased to report progress in the following respects :— (a) the opening of new public conveniences at Cote Heath ; (b) the delivery of a new Thorneycroft refuse collection vehicle ; (c) the provision of a small motor van for inter-departmental use ; and (d) the purchase of the necessary apparatus for descaling furred-up water service pipes which has proved to be very popular on account of its effectiveness and relative unexpensiveness.

The work of the department has not been interfered with through any changes in the staff during the year and I wish to record my appreciation of the co-operation and support which I have received from the Medical Officer of Health and each member of the staff. I also thank the Members of the Council and colleagues in other departments for their continued help and courtesy.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. H. CORNHILL,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, REMOVAL OF PATIENTS TO HOSPITAL, DISINFECTIONS, Etc.

The following table gives the number of patients suffering from notifiable, and other infectious diseases, who were removed to hospital during the year:—

Scarlet Fever	12
Diphtheria	2
Erysipelas	1
	<hr/>
Totals	15
	<hr/>

The remaining cases notified were treated at home, and kept under observation by your officers.

Details in connection with disinfection are:—

Number of rooms disinfected	67
Number of houses or premises concerned	41
Number of articles of clothing, bedding, etc., disinfected at the disinfecting station	664
Library books destroyed	0
Library books disinfected	10
Number of visits paid by Sanitary Inspectors to premises in connection with infectious disease and disinfections	77

The disinfecting station is situated in the grounds of the Ashwood Dale Hospital, the machine being of the “Washington Lyons” type.

ASHPITS—DUSTBINS.

Only 15 Ashpits are in use, and these are located outside the “cleansing area.”

Number of new standard galvanised iron dustbins provided during the year, 1949.....	115
--	-----

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, Etc.

The following tests and repairs to drains have been carried out during the year:—

Drains opened up and examined	4
Primary smoke tests applied to old drains	11
Primary chemical tests applied to old drains	2
Water tests applied to new drains	1
Coloured water tests for tracing leaks and connections	23
Sewer maintenance works executed (Sec. 24 P.H.A., 1936)...	43
House drains reconstructed	4
House drains repaired	14

HOUSING.

The repair of houses is still very seriously restricted, due largely to the high costs of labour and materials with no corresponding increase in rents to meet the charges. The closure or demolition of unfit dwellings is only possible in exceptional cases owing to the shortage of alternative accommodation for re-housing displaced tenants.

Advantage is taken of the opportunity to deal with unfit dwellings when occupiers are about to be re-housed in Corporation houses, and the co-operation of the Housing Department staff in notifying this department of impending changes is greatly appreciated.

Legal proceedings were instituted against the owner of a cottage for permitting its use for human habitation while a Closing Order was operative. A fine of £5 was imposed. The occupier subsequently found other accommodation.

The following is a summary of work done under the Housing and Public Health Acts during the year:—

(a) HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Number of houses inspected under the Housing Act	51
Number of unfit houses closed and undertakings not to re-let for human habitation accepted ...	0
Number of Closing Orders made on parts of buildings unfit for human habitation	1

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

Number of houses inspected for defects under Public Health Act	196
Number of houses at which defects were remedied :	
(1) By owners after informal notice	148
(2) By the Corporation:—	
(i) In default of owners	0
(ii) By agreement with owners following informal action	70

FOOD INSPECTION, Etc.

Food inspection by the Sanitary Inspectors was mainly confined to food other than meat. Inspection of meat at time of slaughtering was wholly performed by the Veterinary Surgeon who has been appointed Meat Inspector for this purpose.

Details of the work are set out below:—

Inspection of Shops and Market Stalls	481	
	No. of	Weight in
UNSOUND FOOD SURRENDERED:—	Articles	lbs.
Fish: Wet	—	280
Tinned	17	—
Paste	10	—
Meat: Fresh	—	142
Tinned	74	—
Pressed	—	2½
Vegetables: Tinned	72	—

	No. of Articles	W'ght in lbs.
Fruit : Tinned	75	—
Dried.....	—	168
Milk	151	—
Soup	37	—
Jams and Marmalade	19	12
Cheese.....	7	6½
Sausage	—	56
Sugar	—	5
Bacon	1	36½
Yeast	—	30
Cereals	32	3,192
Ducks	36	—
Poultry	—	28
Bread	800	—
Toffee	—	8
Salad Cream	8	—
Black Puddings	—	7
Chocolate Spread	1	—
Ice Cream Chocolate Bars	204	—

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

With the coming into operation on the 1st October of The Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949, The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949, The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949, The Milk (Special Designations) Act 1949, and the Food & Drugs (Milk & Dairies) Act 1944, the Minister of Agriculture & Fisheries became responsible for Milk Production including the registration and inspection of dairy farms, leaving the local authority responsible for the control of milk distribution only. The Food and Drugs Authority (the County Council) are responsible for the control of pasteurising and sterilising establishments.

The milk supply of Buxton is derived from 49 sources; and of these 40 per cent. are farms situated outside the Borough.

The table below provides an analysis of the supplies :—

Producer/retailers: within the Borough	17
Producer/wholesalers: within the Borough.....	12
Producer/retailers: from without the Borough	4
Producer/wholesalers: from without the Borough	16
	—
Total	49
	—

Four producers within the Borough supply milk wholesale to dairies in Manchester.

In the following table details are given respecting the persons and premises registered and the inspections made during the year :—

Number of Persons or Firms registered as Cowkeepers,
Dairymen or Purveyors :—

From within the Borough	46
From without the Borough	10
	—
Total	56

Number of Dairy Premises registered :—

(a) Cowsheds	31
(b) Dairies	25
(c) Retail Milk Shops	16

Inspection of Dairies :—

(a) Cowsheds	94
(b) Dairies	180
(c) Milk Shops	11
	—
Total	285
	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF MILK.

Number of samples taken in 1949 was 300, as against 337 for the year 1948.

Phosphatase tests for Pasteurised Milks, Methylene Blue Reduction Test and tests for *Bacillus Coli* for raw milks were carried out at the Devonshire Royal Hospital, Buxton. Guinea pig inoculation tests for Tubercle Bacilli and Phosphatase tests for Pasteurised Milks were carried out at the Derby County Public Health Laboratory.

Action as outlined in former annual reports, continued to be taken in respect of unsatisfactory supplies.

Details as to samples taken and results of tests are summarised in the accompanying table.

ICE CREAM.

During the year 38 visits were made to ice cream premises, and seven additional premises were registered for the sale of ice cream. Two samples of ice cream were taken by the Food and Drugs Authority (Derbyshire County Council) one of which was found to be deficient in fat. In the absence of any standard no further action was taken.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES.

DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS OF TESTS.

DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLE AND DESIGNATION OF MILK.		TUBERCLE BACILLI (Guinea Pig Inoculation)										BACILLUS COLI (In 0.01 M/L)				METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION TEST		PHOSPHATASE TEST**	
		N'g' ve		Positive		No.* Result		Absent		Present		Passed		Failed		Under 2.3 L.B. Units Properly Pasteurised		Over 2.3 L.B. Units Improperly Pasteurised	
		No. of Samples																	
PRIMARY SAMPLES :—																			
Non-Designated	.. ..	129		1		—		51		15		62		4		—		—	
Tuberculin Tested	.. ..	20		—		—		9		1		10		3		—		—	
Accredited	.. ..	77		—		1		30		8		35		—		—		—	
Pasteurised	.. ..	37		—		—		—		—		30		—		35		2	
												7***							
Total Primary Samples	.. ..	263		1		1		90		24		144		7		35		2	
RE-TAKE SAMPLES :—																			
Non-Designated	.. ..	18		—		—		6		12		7		6		—		—	
Tuberculin Tested	.. ..	2		—		—		1		1		1		—		—		—	
Accredited	.. ..	16		—		—		9		4		7		2		—		—	
Pasteurised	.. ..	1		—		—		—		—		1***		—		1		—	
Total Re-Take Samples	.. ..	37		—		—		16		17		16		8		1		—	
GRAND TOTALS	.. ..	300		1		1		106		41		160		15		36		2	

REFERENCES *—TUBERCLE BACILLI—No Result—Guinea Pig died under Test.

**—L.B.—Lovi-Bond Units.

***—No Test—Shade temperature exceeded 65 deg. F.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The Derbyshire County Council is the "Food and Drugs" Authority for the area and I am indebted to the County Analyst for the following report in respect of samples obtained within the Borough and action taken during the year, 1949.

- (1) Total number of samples taken 66
- (2) Milk samples included in above total 24

One sample of milk contained a small amount of added water and the vendor was cautioned.

One sample of Ice Cream was deficient in fat. In the absence of a statutory standard no proceedings were taken but the result, along with those for other samples taken during the year, was included in a separate report to the Ministry of Food.

All the remaining samples were classed as satisfactory.

WATER SUPPLY—SAMPLING.

Samples from the town's three principal reservoir supply areas, viz. :—Stanley Moor, Lightwood and Burbage, were taken each month for analysis by the Bio-chemist, Mr. J. Race, at the Laboratory, Devonshire Royal Hospital. The number of samples was :—

For chemical examination	36
For bacteriological examination	36
	—
	72
	—

Reference to this service is also made in the Medical Officer of Health's report.

FACTORIES.

Particulars as to registered factories and work done under the Factories Act, 1937, are given below :—

1. INSPECTIONS (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors) :

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect'ns	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	7	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	93	49	3*	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	4	4	—	—
TOTAL	111	60	3*	Nil

* Informal.

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp'tr	By H.M. Insp'tr	
Want of cleanliness ...	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drain'ge of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) insufficient ...	3	1	—	2	—
(b) unsuit'ble or def'tve	2	1	—	3	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	6	3	—	6	Nil

Outwork in unwholesome premises ... Nil.

SHOP ACTS.

Work done during the year is summarised below :—

Number of shops entered in Register	428
Number of inspections of shops made during 1949.....	440

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Six smoke observations have been taken during the year. A serious nuisance was caused by the emission of black smoke from a laundry chimney and the management were advised to seek the advice and assistance of the Regional Engineer of the Fuel Efficiency Division of the Ministry of Fuel and Power. A decided improvement was effected and has been maintained and no further nuisance has been created.

THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS, ETC.

There are four places of amusement in the Borough, viz. : The Opera House, The Pavilion Gardens, The Spa Cinema, and The Playhouse. All the establishments are well managed.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Particulars as to offensive trades established in the Borough and inspection of premises are given below :—

Established Trades—Tripe Boiler	1
Inspections Made	3

RODENT CONTROL.

Two full-time Rodent Operatives are employed and the work is organised in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Local Authority Circular N.S. No. 19, dated 9th February, 1948.

SEWER TREATMENT.

The total number of manholes in foul and connected systems is 977.

Approximately ten per cent of the manholes were test-baited in June. This test was followed by maintenance treatment during the following month. The bait and poison used were bread mash and arsenic.

The results were as follows :—

1. Number of manholes baited	222
2. Number of manholes showing pre-bait take	68
3. Number of manholes showing complete pre-bait take (on one or both days)	59
4. Number of manholes test-baited in conjunction with with this treatment and not included in No. 1 above ...	99

SURFACE TREATMENTS.

Free treatment for the destruction of rats and mice is given at private premises.

A routine search of all premises throughout the district is maintained, local authority premises are inspected at regular intervals, and complaints are attended to immediately. The following are the number of treatments carried out during the year :—

THIRD PARTY PREMISES.

(a) Private Dwellings	253
(b) Business Premises	165

LOCAL AUTHORITY PREMISES.

(a) Refuse Tips	10
(b) Other Properties	36

REFUSE AND SALVAGE.

A weekly collection of house and trade refuse with additional collections from hotels as required operates throughout the Borough except for a few isolated premises in the outlying parts. The two S. and D. freighters and the Lewin rear loading vehicle have been supplemented by a new Thorneycroft side loading vehicle during the year. This enables one vehicle to be kept in reserve for use when any of the other vehicles is off the road. The whole of the refuse continues to be disposed of by controlled tipping.

Salvage collection has continued unabated despite the discouragement received through mills becoming overstocked and unable to relieve us of heavy stocks for many weeks, through a terrific slump in the market price of salvaged materials and through the decision of the Board of Trade to cease the payment of the increased collection allowance to local authorities.

The total quantity of materials salvaged during the year is as follows :—

	T.	C.	Q
Newspapers, Books and Mixed Waste Paper	178	3	1
Textiles : Rags, String, Etc.	5	9	0
Bones	0	8	0
Scrap Iron	6	10	3

APPENDIX I.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE.

Infectious Disease and Infected Premises	...	...	...	...	77
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	51
Houses—For Defects under the P.H. Acts	...	...	...	...	24
On Complaint	...	...	...	...	172
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	1,173
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	94
Dairies	...	...	...	...	180
Milkshops	...	...	...	...	11
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	38
Factories	...	...	...	...	60
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	13
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	20
Laundries	...	...	...	...	4
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	6
Food Shops and Stalls	...	...	...	...	481
Hotels and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	40
Food Preparation Premises	...	...	...	...	71
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	3
Stables and Manure Heaps	...	...	...	...	0
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	14
Drainage Work	...	...	...	...	391
Schools	...	...	...	...	15
Theatres and Places of Amusement	...	...	...	...	7
Tents, Sheds, Vans, Etc.	...	...	...	...	25
Shop Acts—Routine	...	...	...	...	99
Wednesday	...	...	...	...	83
Sunday	...	...	...	...	258
Public Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	...	502
Miscellaneous Inspections and Visits	...	...	...	...	965
Complaints—General	...	...	...	...	143
Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	1
Controlled Tip Inspections	...	...	...	...	171
					<hr/> 5,192 <hr/>

APPENDIX II.

NOTICES, &c.

INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED :—

Verbal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Letters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Written Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Total									<hr/> 136 <hr/>

STATUTORY NOTICES SERVED :—

Buxton Corporation Act, 1927.

Section 56—Unstop Drain	...	...	...	...	1
Section 78—Defective Dustbins	...	...	...	...	8

Public Health Act, 1936.

Section 24—Repair Public Sewers	...	...	...	8
Section 44—Provide Water Closet	...	...	...	0
Section 45—Repair Water Closet	...	...	...	4
Section 93—Abate Nuisance	...	...	...	26

APPENDIX III.

NUISANCES ABATED AND SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Houses and Premises cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Houses—Closed for habitation	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Structure repaired	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Window frames/sashes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	17
„ Washing Copper provided/renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Handrails to staircases provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Cooking range repaired/renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	5
Eaves, gutters and rainwater pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Water supply provided or restored	...	...	...	...	...	60
Water fittings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sewers—Repaired/renewed/improved	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ Cleansed/emptied (Unstopped)	...	...	...	...	...	41
Drains—Reconstructed...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ Unstopped and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	50
„ Obsolete traps replaced by stoneware gullies	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Inspection Chambers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ New inspection chambers constructed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pail Closets—New pails provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water Closets—Obsolete ped's replaced by ap'd types	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ „ Structure repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ Fittings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ „ Flushing Cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ New flushing cisterns provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sinks—New sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
Waste Pipes—New waste pipes provided	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ „ Trapped	...	...	...	...	...	1
New Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	115
Yards—Defective pavings re-laid	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Improper keeping of animals discontinued	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	17
						<hr/> 415 <hr/>

